Christian Unity
NEWSLETTER
V .II August, 1956 No.2

Forty - Sixth Annual Report

The Executive Committee meeting in Indianapolis on June , approved the Forty-Sixth Annual Report of the Council r presentation to the Des Moines Convention. The text of e annual report together with Financial Statement and rectory follows:

The executive heads of the oard of Higher Education, the Com- ttee on Relief Appeals, the In- ernational Convention and the ited Society were brought into e Executive Committee in 1954. is has contributed much in the st year toward an effective, rrelated brotherhood program in e area of Christian Unity. Other ans adopted at the time of the ami Convention have been imple- ented this past year, viz., the eation of the Department of Ecu- nical Study and of the Committee Relations with Churches and ion Movements Abroad.

entral Department on Christian ity

The Committee on Relations with urches and Union Movements A- oad, with Virgil A. Sly as chair- n, reports to the Central Depart- nt on Christian Unity. It has be- n its work of exploring areas r the development of relations th churches abroad by outlining eas of priority and assigning sponsibilities to competent or- nizations and individuals.

The 1955 Peter Ainslie Memorial cture; sponsored by the Central partment, was given at the Uni- rsity of Antal, South Africa, by e Honorable R.S. Garfield Todd, ime Minister of Southern Rhodesia. e department c ntinues to seek local church budget support for the National and World Councils. It is glad to report that such support of the World Council increased by 9 per cent in 1955, and that of the National Council by 13 per cent. The department has active concern in union movements such as the proposed merger of Congregational Christian and Evangelical and Reformed churches to form a United Church of Christ, and the (Greenwich) Conference on Church Union.

Department Of Ecumenical Study

The Study Department was created with Irvin Lunger as chairman, and Ronald E. Osborn, director. The purpose of the department is to relate Disciples in a responsible way to official ecumenical studies, to maintain a program of serious study among Disciples, and to prepare Disciples for competent participation in world-wide ecumenical study. At its first planning meeting, some 30 areas of ecumenical study in the program of the World Council were considered and responsibilities assigned to competent Disciples' groups or persons.

In October a conference of representatives of ten area groups working on the (Greenwich) Plan of Union expressed general enthusiasm for the tentative Plan, and at the same time prepared 13 typewritten

pages of suggestions for improvement of the preliminary draft for consideration by the interdenominational drafting committee.

The department is working at preparations for the 1957 Faith and Order Conference on *The Nature of the Unity We Seek* to be held at Oberlin, Ohio.

Department Of Ecumenical Service

This department has been engaged in conference and visitation with other churches, including the Disciples' Mission to Europe and the Middle East in July and August, participation of the director in the Ecumenical Mission to Istanbul in November and in the World Consultation on Inter-church Aid in Switzerland in May.

The department has surveyed ecumenical concerns overseas and made recommendations to the Committee on Relief Appeals for aid through Week of Compassion. With Week of Compassion support and under departmental auspices, Malcolm McCallum has completed a year of successful work among refugees in Egypt. The department is now considering other appointees for ecumenical service abroad on a similar basis.

A program of ecumenical scholarships has been established, and the first recipient of the "Seminaries' Scholarship" for study at the Graduate School of Ecumenical Studies in Switzerland has been named. He is Delos McKown, sponsored by the College of the Bible.

Funds for projects administered through this department are provided by various Disciples bodies. Through the cooperative effort of the Christian Board of Publication and the United Society's foreign division, books were recently supplied to union theological seminaries abroad.

Literature and Interpretation

Through the generosity of the Christian Board of Publication, the *Disciples Response to Evanston* was distributed to Disciple ministers and to member church of the World Council. Ecumenic literature, particularly Evanst Inter pretation, has been ma available to Disciples' leader The *Newsletter* has gone to membe of the Council: a special brochu on the work of the Council h been distributed free of charge area conventions. A library Christian unity is being collect at the Council's offices, and lite ature has been exchanged wi churches of several confessions other parts of the world.

Special Projects

A significant part of the wo of the Council this year has be the creation of a special commi tee, chaired by Gaines M. Cook, f Disciples' support in fiancing t new headquarters building for t World Council. Mention should al be made of fraternal messages se to churches in special celebr tions or in special distress, a of staff participation in numero ecumenical conference and commit tees which consume a great deal time. The staff has also been e gaged, together with staff of t Historical Society, in making pla for the 1958-59 Year of Emphas of Disciples' History and Chri tian Unity.

Directory - Officers

Hampton Adams, President
Irvin E. Lunger, First Vice-Pre
R. B. Montgomery, Second Vice-Pre
Harlie L. Smith, Treasure
George Walker Buckner, Secreta
Evelyn Honeywell, Ass't. Sec.-Tre

Executive Committee

Hampton Adams, Irvin E. Lunge
R. B. Montgomery, Harlie L. Smit
George Walker Buckner, Gaines
Cook, A. Dale Fiers, C. O. Hawley

Staff

George Walker Buckner, Executiv
Secretary; Robert Tobias, Associat
Executive Secretary; Ronald E. Os
born, Director of Ecumenical Stu

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Income

ed Promotion		
ndesignated and Specific	$15,708.65	
esignated	1,700.00	
pecial Receipts:		
Equipment	425.00	
Literature	500.00	
ership Dues	153.00	
ellaneous	15.66	
otal Income		$18,502.31

Expenditures

e Space	$ 419.35	
e Equipment and Supplies	488.83	
e Expense (Phone, Secretary, etc.)	2,423.35	
t Relations	191.97	
ed Promotion & Council of Agencies Expense	993.83	
iples Expense to Meetings of NCC & WCC	610.24	
entions and Conferences	832.62	
enical Conferences Representation	817.80	
ributions to N.C.C. and W.C.C.	286.00	
icipation, Union Merger Conferences	449.19	
Representatives Expense	150.00	
erature and Literature projects	1,666.78	
esentatives Abroad	100.00	
ly Department Program	1,025.55	
ctor's Salary, Pension, Travel	5,758.56	
ellaneous	518.98	
ges Against special funds (current)	1,078.00	
ges Against special funds (accrued)	223.50	
Total Expenditures		$18,029.55
nce		$ 472.76

rectors

Terms expiring in 1957: A.Dale ers, Lo fen E.Lair, G.Edwin Os- rn, Donald M.Salmon, Mrs.John dman, R.B.Montgomery, John Paul ck, James H.Welsh, W.J.Jarman, le Mullen, Lee C.Pierce.

Terms expiring in 1956: Hampton ms, George W.Buckner, Perry E. esham, Irvin E.Lunger, Paul E. ker, W.K.Fox, C.O.Hawley, Miss sie Sweeney, T.Hassel Bowen, rren Grafton, Joseph B.Hunter.

Terms expiring in 1955: Gaines M.Cook, Floyd Faust, Oliver Mc- Cully, M.E.Sadler, Myron C.Cole, Ira W.Langston, E.S.Moreland, Harlie L.Smith, F.E.Davison, Corl A.Leach, Mrs.Russell Putnam.

Honorary Life Commissioners: H. C.Armstrong, F.W.Burnham, Homer W. Carpenter, Edgar DeWitt Jones, Charles Clayton Mo rison, Roger T. Nooe.

Disciples Support For New World Council Headquarters Building

Twenty-one State Secretaries of Disciples have responded affirmatively in reply to an inquiry concerning Disciples support for a new Headquarters Building for the World Council in Geneva, Switzerland. The total building project, costing $750,000, calls for $300,000 to be provided by member churches of the World Council. Among Disciples a special committee was set up by the Council on Christian Unity with Gaines M. Cook as chairman to provide a channel for Disciples to support the new building project. The response of State Secretaries indicates that Disciples will be wholeheartedly behind the project and, if other states are as encouraging in their replies, will make their full quota of the total Disciples' share.

Architects plan for the building are to be considered by the Central Committee in session in Hungary this summer.

The Council Meeting At Des Moines

The Annual Meeting of Members of the Council will be held Saturday morning, September 29, at 7:30 A.M., at the Hotel Savery. Breakfast will be served to the members, tickets $1.75 from the Council office. In addition to business items on the Agenda, members will hear a report from the nominating committee, some comments from the president on Unity in the Convention Program and three brief surveys by Drs. Fiers, Osborn and Tobias of highlights in unity among movements abroad, ecumenical service and emergencies, and in ecumenical studies.

The Annual Meeting of Directors will be held Saturday evening, September 29, at 5½30 P.M. at the Brown Hotel. Dinner will be served at $1.40 per plate. The agenda includes election of officers, consideration of other business items and a statement by the president Dr. Hampton Adams on the Oberlin Conference theme *The Nature of the Unity We Seek*. Particular attention will be given to the Greenwich Plan of Union and the Union of Congregational Christian and Evangelical and Reformed churches.

Unity Resolutions at Des Moines

A committee was appointed at the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Council on June 25 to draw up an omnibus unity resolution for presentation to the Des Moines Convention. The Resolutions Committee will consider inclusion of items of support of the National and World Councils, participation in the new World Council Headquarters Building project, proposals of the Conference on Church Union, relation to the merger efforts of Congregational Christian and Evangelical and Reformed churches and the proposed Student Merger, the strategy proposals of the Foreign Division, and principles involved in Disciples relations to Christians in areas where there are no Disciple churches and no Disciple mission work.

Members of the Council wishing to make suggestions to the Resolutions Committee should send them to Prof. Ronald E. Osborn, School of Religion, Butler University, Indianapolis, Indiana.

New Members Of The Council

Rev. James T. Lawson, Franklin, Indiana; Muriel Watkins Leach, Indianapolis; Rev. Charles E. Madinger, Tucson, Arizona; Mr. L. E. Pitman, St. Louis, Missouri; Dean O. L. Shelton, Indianapolis; Mr. Clarence Taylor, Saskatchewan, Canada; and Mr. Donald R. Woodley, Greenville, South Carolina.